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Number
103

THE COMIC READER

40¢

January -
February
1974

Publishers Caught in Inflationary Web

A Letter from the Editors

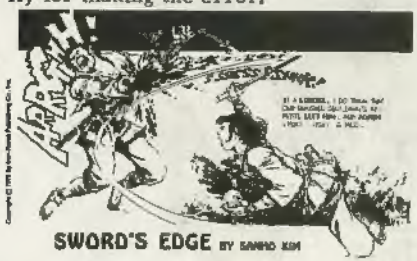
As everyone undoubtedly knows, we have had a difficult time getting TCR to you before a number of the comics listed therein hit the stands in your area. This problem resulted from the time of month we initially began TCR, and was compounded by the (bah, humbug) holidays, which we saw fit to honor. We have been unable to get back to mid-month, and this issue would most probably have been totally useless had we not decided to delay this issue another week to get ahead of the game by combining the January and February listings. That's right -- this issue covers DC and Marvel through the last weeks of February. In the meanwhile, we will be working to get our March issue, #104, out by February 15th. This will, hopefully, make everything right once again.

In doing the double-month listings, we had to omit Fanzine Reviews once again, plus delay a paid advertisement until next issue. We hope that this is a one-time thing, and we apologize to both Liam O'Connor and Alan Light.

Jerry and Mike

Et Al

Last issue's ET AL incorrectly linked Sal Quartuccio's HOT STUFF with Phase, an organization that Mr. Quartuccio has left. Phase is a trademark owned by Jim Ciccolella and Douglas Foley and we bear responsibility for making the error.



SWORD'S EDGE BY SANHO KIM

Iron Horse Publishing Co. (P.O. Box 1182, Northfield Center Station, Southfield, MI 48075) has published a paper back edition called "Sword's Edge" which was written and illustrated by Charlton artist Sanho Kim. It is the first in a series of sword-fighting adventure-romance stories told in comic book style but in paperback format. The book measures 7 1/2" x 5 1/2 " and costs $1.50 and is a departure from the normal American comic fare.

Tony Isabella has moved to 5455 Kings Hwy, Apt 4A, Brooklyn, NY 11203.

The National Lampoon Radio Hour debuted in mid-December across the country. It is composed of an hour (strangely enough) of the kind of material contained on the RADIO DINNER and LEMMINGS LPs. Considering that the show is written and performed by some of the most perverted, filthy dregs of humanity (Michael O'Donoghue and co.) it isn't half bad.

The original American hardcover to deal with American cartoonists, Martin Sheridan's CLASSIC COMICS AND THEIR CREATORS (the "Classic" has been added to the title) circa 1942, has been reprinted by Post Books (Box 150, Arcadia, CA 91006) and is selling for $11.95 -- unless you have a "Lucky Buck" from them, in which case the cost is $7.95. It would most probably be a good idea to write them for information before ordering.

Our neighbors to the South, Windy City Publications (5600 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60646) are publishing a slew of nice-sounding publications. POOR RICHARD'S ADZINE enters the adzine field this month, with a monthly schedule, $3.00 subsciprtion rate (per year), ad rates starting at $10 per 8 1/2" x 11" page, and a circulation of 2500. CHRONICLE features articles and art by such people as Byrne, Dixon, Rice, Engel, Sakai, Boswick, Wisnewski, and others (including a certain editor as title page artist) and is 50¢. Plus, publisher George Breo is entering the semi-underground comics business, starting with TALES OF THE MACABRE and AMAZING SCIENCE FANTASY, with artwork by Steve Boswick, Jim Wisnewski, John Byrne and Frank Cirocco in what George calls "the popular EC tradition." These are 35¢ for 32 pages including covers. Everything can be ordered at the above address.

COMIC STRIP NEWS: The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE (from us; $29 per yr., 75¢ per sample) has added KEVIN THE BOLD by Kreigh Collins (from 1955), STEVE ROPER & MIKE NOMAD and the KERRY DRAKE Sunday page to replace the discontinued AMBLER strip. We are also currently running Milton Caniff's MALE CALL featuring Miss Lace which ran exclusively in military papers.

FAVORITE FUNNIES was discontinued with issue #12 and most of the strips were added to VINTAGE FUNNIES (RR 1, Box 297, E. Moline, IL 61244; $19 per yr., 60¢ per sample) which is now 24 pages.

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Post Office Box 255 Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

Our cover: Marvel's webslinger who we shamelessly exploited for a headline is ©1974, Marvel Comics Group. Illo by Gil Kane.

The COMIC READER

January-February 1974

Volume 1, Number 103

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DEALER RATES
The Comic Reader is available at liberal wholesale rates to any dealer willing to take 25 or more copies per month. Rates available on request.

BACK ISSUES
Issues #74, 75, 76, 77, 93, 94, 95, 96 and 98 are 35¢ each. Issues 92 and 100 are 50¢ each.

THE COMIC READER is published monthly by Street Enterprises, P.O. Box 255, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051. Phone: (414) 251-6933. Printed by Falls Publishing Co.
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Last month we featured the effects of the paper shortage upon the comic industry. As everyone is undoubtedly aware, the U.S. is also facing a fuel shortage and a constantly inflating economy. The increases in the costs of the paper, labor and colored inks have finally resulted in another increase in the retail cost of the 32 page comic book. It is a mirror of the times to consider that fifteen years have brought an increase of 250% in the price of the American comic book, and that the increase to 20¢ took place less than two years ago.

Marvel News

Marvel's 32 page books will be raising the cover price to 25¢ to cover increasing paper and production costs. The change will come into effect with the May issues, on sale in late January.

Marvel has in production a series of new books called GIANT SIZE SUPER STARS. These new magazines will be 35¢ each, 48 pages, of which 22 will be new material. There will be two separate books, each of which will have three rotating features. Thus each monthly book will have three features that appear four times a year.

The first book will rotate the FANTASTIC FOUR by Gerry Conway and Rich Buckler, SPIDER-MAN by Gerry Conway and Ross Andru, and CONAN by Roy Thomas and Gil Kane. The other book will rotate WEREWOLF BY NIGHT by Don Perlin, MAN-THING by Mike Ploog, and DRACULA by Gene Colan. The first of these books will feature the FANTASTIC FOUR in a story featuring the Thing versus the Hulk. The special WEREWOLF BY NIGHT issue will feature The CAT in a guest appearance as she returns to comics as a were-cat!

Also planned, though not pinned to a specific starting date is a third rotating giant that would be 60¢/100 pages. Tentatively set to rotate in this book would be a Team-Up Spider-Man with-a-guest-star series, The Defenders, and a revised version of the X-Men by Mike Friedrich and, if his schedule permits, Dave Cockrum. Further details of these new Marvel magazines will be in TCR next month.

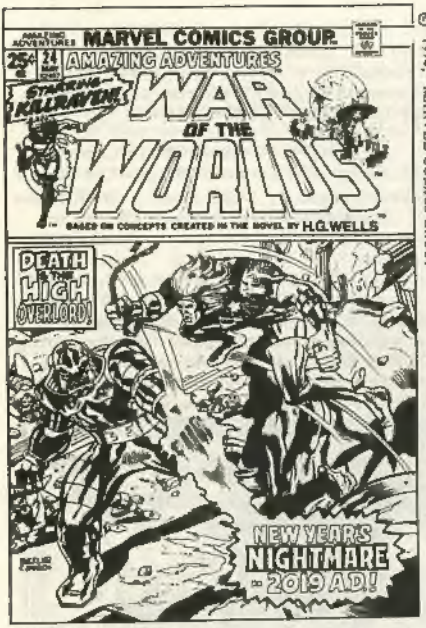
One of the new black and white books we have been hinting about recently is ready to go and will appear in February. DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU will feature a cover by Neal Adams, SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU in a story by Steve Englehart, Jim Starlin and Al Milgrom, and a new series called SONS OF THE TIGER by Gerry Conway and Dick Giordano which features a tri-racial team of martial arts experts.

The other half of the book will be a section of articles and photo-features that will be removable to make two separate magazines. The pull-out section will even have a separate cover (though not on cover stock). Included in the first issue will be two articles on the KUNG FU TV show, an article and a two page pin-up on Bruce Lee, an article on FIVE FINGERS OF DEATH, and "What To Do Until the Sensei Comes", a photo-feature by Wan Chang O'Shaughnessy.

This new magazine is planned to be a bi-monthly.

It's back again! SAVAGE TALES has once more been brought back to life and the first revived issue, #4, is scheduled to be released March 26th. It will follow the format set in issues two and three, with emphasis on CONAN, barbarians, and other fantasy-adventure. Starting in issue four will be a series of articles on fantasy movies. The first will be about the new Ray Harryhausen SINDBAD movie.

Marvel Editor Roy Thomas will be giving up the scripting chores on any of the series he has been doing in order to concentrate on the three series with


MARVEL COMICS GROUP
AMAZING ADVENTURES
STARRING KILLRAVEN!
WAR OF THE WORLDS
BASED ON CONCEPTS CREATED IN THE NOVEL BY H.G. WELLS
DEATH IS THE HIGH OVERLORD!
NEW YEAR'S NIGHTMARE IN 2019 AD!
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CONAN. He plans to have John Buscema continue to illustrate the monthly comic, Gil Kane to draw the quarterly appearances in GIANT SIZE SUPER STARS, and as often as his schedule permits, Barry Smith will do the stories for SAVAGE TALES. Rich Buckler and Jim Starlin may be doing fill-in stories of CONAN for use in any series that has deadline trouble.

Roy Thomas also notes that the three series will each deal with a different time in the barbarian's life, so there will be no problem with running continuity between the series.

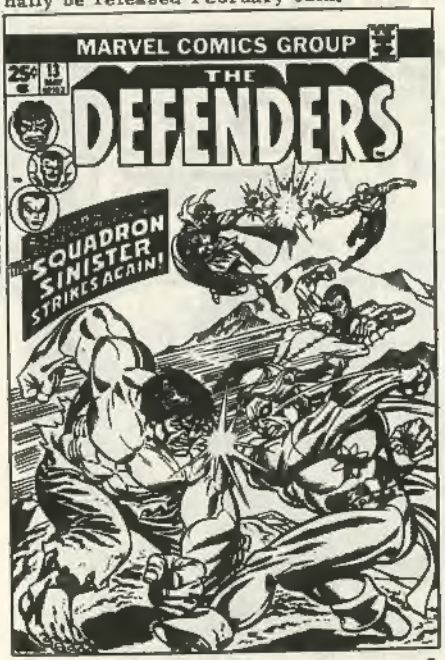
Mike Ploog will henceforth be laboring on the pencilling of MAN-THING, with Don Perlin taking over the WEREWOLF BY NIGHT book. Larry Lieber has replaced Dick Ayers as artist on IT, THE LIVING COLOSSUS. Tony Isabella will be doing stories for MONSTERS UNLEASHED, and Doug Moench will be scripting for DRACULA LIVES! and taking over the writing of the color FRANKENSTEIN book. Al Milgrom, who has been handling the inking of Jim Starlin's MASTER OF KUNG FU work, will take over the pencilling of the strip as Jim Starlin leaves for other endeavors.

Still another Spider-Man comic begins next month with the addition of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN KING SIZE to the line-up. It will be published quarterly and will cost 35¢

Coming up in the pages of WORLDS UNKNOWN is a two part adaptation of a Sindbad movie with story adapted by Len Wein and art by George Tuska. Also in the works is the "cyborg"- type character we mentioned last issue, which has since been named DEATHLOK. It will appear in WORLDS UNKNOWN and the writing will be by Doug Moench, but Rich Buckler may not have time to illustrate it.

Some of the horror story reprint titles may be featuring new material in the near future. A series featuring the Golem is being created, and Marv Wolfman and Dave Cockrum are working together on a new series entitled The MANPHIBIAN. In addition, two major movie series are being negotiated for in the hopes of creating series for them. Since the contracts have yet to be signed, however, we won't be able to let you in on them until next month.

JUNGLE ACTION #9, which was scheduled for release on 12/11 has been yanked off the press at the last minute and will be delayed due to a shortage of paper. Scripter Don McGregor's dismay over what this may do to the continuity he has been building is slightly lessened because, coincidentally, the issue features an illustrated recap of the previous three appearances of the Panther as a back-up feature. It will finally be released February 12th.



National News

As of this time, National doesn't plan to go to the 25¢ price for its 32 page books. As reported last issue, however, the 100 page books will now cost 60¢.

Starting with issue #11 of SWAMP THING, Nestor Redondo will be replacing Berni Wrightson illustrating the marsh monster. Len Wein will continue to script ST, and in #11 will introduce a sub plot concerning Zachary Nail and a domed city in the swamp. This is taken from a non-series mystery story that appeared some time ago. Issue 12 features a time travel tale with an immortal man who is tired of life and is searching for a way to die. The thirteenth issue has Swamp Thing finally caught by Arcane who takes him before a senate investigating committee!

Nestor Redondo will also take over the art chores on the BLACK ORCHID back-up strip in PHANTOM STRANGER after one story by Tony Dezuniga.

While this month's issue of THE SHADOW han Len Wein scripting the last half to help out editor Denny O'Neil who was unable to finish it, the next issue is drawn by Frank Robbins to help Mike Kaluta catch up on his schedule.

Steve Skeates and former "Brenda Starr" artist Mike Grell have done two AQUAMAN stories that will appear in ADVENTURE COMICS.

SUPERBOY #202 features one Legion story by Dave Cockrum and one by Cockrum inked by Mike Grell. With issue 203, Grell takes over the art chores on the Legion.

The Human Target will no longer appear in ACTION COMICS. The Atom and Green Arrow will alternate with two part stories quite possible. The upcoming ACTION Super-Spectacular will be concentrated on varied types of action - the original material will be a combined

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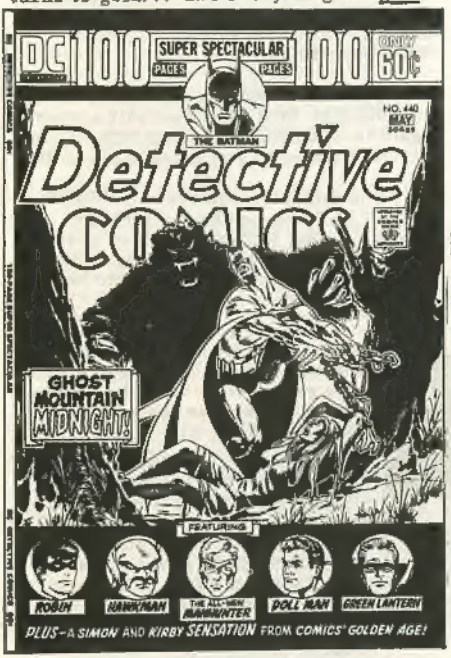
SUPERMAN-GREEN ARROW story and the reprints will include SEA DEVILS, ADAM STRANGE, DOLL MAN, a MY GREATEST ADVENTURE story, and MATT SAVAGE, TRAIL BOSS.

Upcoming $1 books on sale in March will be DETECTIVE #27, as the second in the FAMOUS FIRST EDITION series, with a silver cover, and another SHAZAM book that will feature Captain Marvel in "Sivana's Voodoo Curse" by Pete Costanza, "The Mistake of Father Time," and "Uncle Marvel's Rival" which reintroduced Ebenezer Batson, the evil uncle who threw Bill out in the origin. Junior appears in "The Man With

100 Heads" and Mary in "The Black Magician." Mr. Tawny is in "Mr. Tawny's Diet Dangers" and the Marvel Family is featured in "The Fantastic Freezing Furies" by Kurt Schaffenberger and "The Trio of Terror" by C.C. Beck. Also included is a photo feature on the Captain Marvel movie serial. Cover is by Bob Oksner.

Upcoming in the 100 page SHAZAM book are a number of interesting stories. Issue twelve will feature "Mighty Master of the Martial Arts" by Elliott Maggin, Bob Oksner and Vince Colletta, "Golden Plague" by E. Nelson Bridwell and Bob Oksner (in which a character gains a curse even worse than the Midas touch - everything he touches turns to gold... and everything the gold



touches turns to gold!), and a Captain Marvel Junior story, "The Longest Block in the World" by Elliott Maggin and Dick Giordano. In issue 14 there will be a full length Marvel Family versus the Monster Society of Evil story by Kurt Schaffenberger.

Reprints in the forseeable future include "Mary Marvel versus Night Owl", an interesting one-time villain, Captain Marvel in "Uncle Marvel's Wedding" which introduced Aunt Minerva, and the most famous Marvel Family saga of them all, the five chapter "The Sivana Family Strikes at the Marvel Family" from MARVEL FAMILY #10. The three stories in SHAZAM #12 will be followed by an assortment of stories about the Marvel Family's friends, including Mr. Tawny, Old Shazam, Mr. Morris (in a Marvel Family tale by Kurt Shaffenberger), Billy's foster parents, his secretary, etc.

The first issue of WONDER WOMAN edited by Julius Schwartz will feature Superman narrating the first of a series of trials Wonder Woman must go through to regain her membership in the Justice League. "The Man Who Mastered Women" pits her against the Cavalier and is by Len Wein, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. Following issues will each be narrated by a different member of the JLA, and illustrated by their respective artists. The second story is narrated by The Flash in a story by Cary Bates and Irv Novick.

To give you some idea of what is selling these days, the title blurb for ADVENTURE COMICS now reads "Weird Adventure Comics."

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY's first issue will feature new Jimmy Olsen material, with Supergirl and Lois Lane taking the lead spot with new material in the following issues. Added reprints will feature Perry White, Jor-El, Krypto, Superbaby and any story that stars a member of the Superman/Superboy supporting casts.

DC 100 SUPER SPECTACULAR PAGES 100 ONLY 60¢
JIMMY OLSEN
THE SUPERMAN FAMILY
NO. 164 MAY
NEW!
TAKE OFF, SUPERMAN!
I CAN SOLVE MY OWN PROBLEMS!
BRAINIAC'S TRAP FOR SUPERGIRL
THE THREE WIVES OF SUPERMAN
KRYPTO, HOLLYWOOD STAR
PLUS PERRY WHITE IN "THE DEATH MARCH"
EXTRA! HOW THE ARTISTS DRAW THE SUPERMAN FAMILY!
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Featured in this month's Super-Spectacular TARZAN are a Korak story pencilled by Joe Kubert and inked by Russ Heath, a story adapted from Russ Manning's Sunday strip, a Carson of Venus adventure, and a reprint with the lead character's name changed to Simba for legal reasons.

The Catwoman and The Penguin will make their respective reappearances in the next two issues of BATMAN.

Coming up in the JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA May-June issue is "A Balance of Power" in which the JLA battle the new Injustice Gang of the World, comprised of Chronos, The Scarecrow, The Shadow Thief; The Mirror Master and the new Tattooed Man, led by a newcomer called Libra.

In the following issue, returning from the JLA's BRAVE & BOLD days, is Amazo, the one man Justice League. It's a sequel to the preceding issue.

The annual JLA-JSA team-up takes place in the September-October issue, involving an investigation into the whereabouts of SANDMAN's Simon and Kirby costume and his sidekick, Sandy, entitled "Creature in the Velvet Cage."

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Some confusion has been circulating over the fact that the National subscription blanks have not been listing THE SHADOW, STRANGE SPORTS STORIES, BLACK MAGIC or WEIRD WESTERN TALES. None of these books have been cancelled; however, some issues have been delayed one or two months. The February-March issue of BLACK MAGIC was delayed until this month, as were the March-April issue of SINISTER HOUSE and THE SANDMAN one shot. The March-April issue of WEIRD WESTERN will be on the May-June schedule.

The following issues were listed as Coming Comics but will not appear: SUPERGIRL #10, LOIS LANE #137, SECRET ORIGINS #7 and WEIRD WORLDS #10.

The only book that was listed as cancelled in TCR #102 that will appear again is SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE, which is slated to run through issue #18.

The missing code seal on WEIRD WAR TALES came about simply because the seal fell off the cover paste up before the cover was photographed, and no one caught it. The comic received code approval.

Similarly, the missing words from the cover of THE DEMON #16 came about because of a printer's error -- he used the uncorrected plate after the error had been rectified.

Upcoming in BRAVE & BOLD Super-Spec #113 are reprints of GREEN ARROW, a Fox/Kubert HAWKMAN story, CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN, and a Kubert VIKING PRINCE tale, as well as a BATMAN-METAL MEN team-up in which a revenge crazed crook hijacks the Wayne Foundation building.

WORLD'S FINEST Super-Spec for May-June includes an unusual story involving Superman, Batman and Deadman and a long-lost relative of Batman. Reprints include DEADMAN, AQUAMAN, ROBOT-MAN, and two SUPERMAN-BATMAN team-ups.

Coming up in HOUSE OF SECRETS #120 is a Shelly Mayer story, "The Right Demon Could Do It," which is illustrated by DC newcomer Paul Kirchner and inked by Tex Blaisdell. It is reputed to be "this year's classic story," around the offices, and judging by Shelly's past work, we wouldn't doubt it.

Marvel Coming Comics

COMING COMICS is a listing of upcoming releases from the major comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are from the publishers' production schedules and serve as approximate indications of the date your local distributor may feel like putting the material on display. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, cover date). Description of all known contents, credits for the feature/s in this order: writer, artist, inker. (On sale date)

●

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (174, April). "Doomsday -- Down Under" features the Cobalt Man's plan to promote world nuclear disarmament by demonstrating the threat by leveling Sydney, Australia. Written by Roy Thomas and Gerry Conway, drawn by Herb Trimpe and Jack Abel. (12/18)

KID COLT OUTLAW (181, April). (12/18)

DRACULA LIVES (5, March). "A Duel of Demons" by Gerry Conway and Frank Springer features Dracula versus Cagliostro, "Night Flight to Terror" by Tony Isabella, Gene Colan and Pablo Marcos, and the first part of the adaptation of the Bram Stoker DRACULA novel by Roy Thomas and Dick Giordano. (12/18). (75¢)

THE OUTLAW KID (21, April). "Empty Holsters," "Showdown at Sunup," and "Gunning for Trouble" all from OUTLAW KID #5 and all by Doug Wildey. Plus "The End of the Dakota Kid" by Joe Sinnott from GUNSMOKE WESTERN #46. Cover by Herb Trimpe. (12/18)

MARVEL TALES (50, April). Spidey vs. the Kingpin in "Crisis on the Campus" from SPIDER-MAN #68. Written by Stan Lee, drawn by John Romita and Jim Mooney. (12/18)

IRON MAN (67, April). With Eddie March dying from wounds he received filling in for Iron Man last issue, Tony Stark is forced to try to help him with the Enervator-Intensifier he once used on Happy Hogan. But the device changes Eddie into The Freak! (12/18)

TOMB OF DRACULA (19, April). "Snowbound in Hell" is a character study of Dracula and Rachael Van Helsing while trapped in the Transylvanian Alps, each needing the other to survive. Written by Marv Wolfman, illustrated by Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. (12/18)

WEIRD WONDER TALES (3, April). Featured are: "The Thing in the Mud," "The Monster Men" by Forgione and Abel, "The Man From Outer Space" by Bob Powell, and "When you Believe" by Bill Everett. (12/18)

WORLDS UNKNOWN (6, April). When an entity from the deepest past enters and brings to life a piece of construction equipment, it becomes "The Thing Called... Killdozer!" Scripted by Gerry Conway from a story by Theodore Sturgeon, drawn by Dick Ayers and Ernie Chua. (12/18)

●

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (131, April). "My Uncle, My Enemy" has Spidey at the wedding of Aunt May and Doctor Octopus. He also discovers the reason Doc Oc and the Hammerhead are after Aunt May. Story by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Frank Giacoia. (1/1)

TWO-GUN KID (117, April). From TWO-GUN #89 is a triple team-up story with Kid Colt and Rawhide Kid, "Three Rode Together" by Gary Friedrich and Ogden Whitney. Plus a BLACK RIDER story, "Trouble in Leadville" by Lee & Kirby. (1/1)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (172, April). Cap meets up with the X-Men in this issue's lead-in to the next issue. Story by Steve Englehart, Sal Buscema and Vince Colletta. (1/1)

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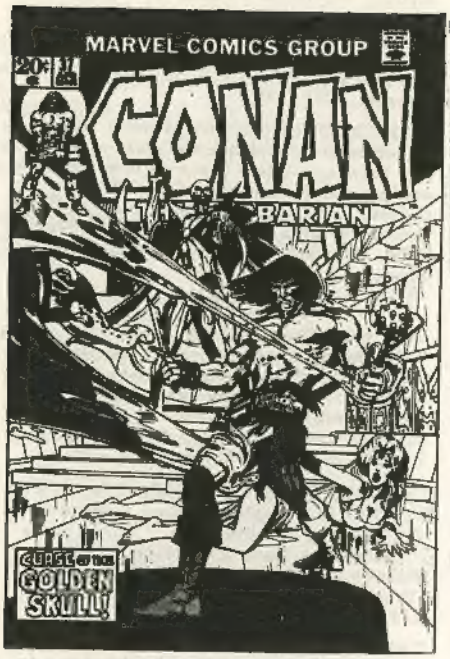

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VAULT OF EVIL (10, April). Featuring "The Death of a Puppet" by Jim Mooney, "Let's Face It," "The Pitchman" by Bob Brown, "They Wait in the Caves" by Mort Drucker, and "Bertha Gets Buried" by Sam Kweskin. (1/1)

THOR (222, April). Thor and Hercules trace the disappearance of Krista from Asgard to Pluto's domain and they battle Ares "Before the Gates of Hell," by Gerry Conway, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (1/1)

DEAD OF NIGHT (3, April). "The Hidden Graveyard" by Bob Forgione, "Waitin' for Satan" by George Tuska, "While the City Slumbers" by Paul Reinman and "Only a Rose" by John Forte. (1/1)

THE X-MEN (87, April). The wrap-up of the long Factor-Three battle in "The Fateful Finale" by Roy Thomas, Don Heck and Vince Colletta from X-MEN #39. This story introduced new costumes for the X-Men. Back-up story is Mister Universe by Lee and Ditko. (1/1)

CRAZY (3, March). Cover by Kelly Freas starts off this issue which features "The Walnuts" by Marv Wolfman and Marie Severin, "Plain High Drifter," "Soiled Green" and "Last Tangle in Paris" all by Steve Skeates, Marv Wolfman and Enrique Ventura, "Hot Rods of the Gods" by Roy Thomas and Marie Severin, a ROLLING STONE parody by Steve Gerber, Larry Hama and Ralph Reese, and more on the history of Moosedom by Bob Foster. (1/3)((75¢)

●

THE AVENGERS (122, April). The Avengers and the rebel Zodiac members are "Trapped in Outer Space" until another Zodiac member decides to change sides in the conflict. This issue includes the startling relavation of Mantis' father. (1/8)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (37, April). Originally done for SAVAGE TALES, "The Curse of the Golden Skull", by Roy Thomas and Neal Adams, has Conan facing a wizard dead for 400 years. Co-starring in this story is Juma the Black, a character created by Lin Carter and L. Sprague de Camp. (1/8)

MAN-THING (4, April). "The Making of a Mad-Man!" by Steve Gerber, Val Mayerick and Jack Abel features the origin of the Fool-Killer, which writer Steve Gerber states "will be considered controversial." (1/8)

THE GHOST RIDER (5, April). "And Vegas Writhes in Flame!" is by Marv Wolfman (plot), Doug Moench (script), Jim Mooney (pencils), and Sal Trapani (inks). The Ghost Rider battles Roulette

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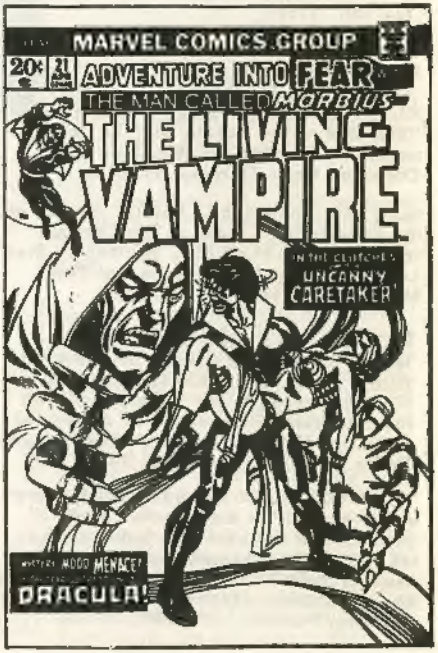

thru the streets of Las Vegas to rescue Roxanne Simpson. Next issue the writing will be taken over by Tony Isabella, who will introduce new directions for the character. (1/8)

MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE (3, April). IRON MAN goes "Into the Jaws of Death" to rescue Happy Hogan from the Mandarin in a story by Stan Lee, Gene Colan and Frank Giacoia. CAPTAIN AMERICA faces "The Blitzkrieg of Batroc" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia. Both stories are from TALES OF SUSPENSE #85. (1/8)

FEAR (21, April). MORBIUS continues last month's tale in "Project: Second Genesis". He discovers the secret of the child Daemond hypnotically sent him to kill and switches sides to attack Daemond as The Caretakers promise to find his long lost fiancee. Written by Steve Gerber, art by Gil Kane and Vince Colletta. (1/8)

●

FANTASTIC FOUR (145, April). Johnny Storm and Medusa are on the way to visit the Inhumans in the Hidden Land when the Pogo Plane is downed in the Himalayas by a band of intelligent abominable snowmen whose leader, Ternak, plans to change the climate of the world. "Nightmare in the Snow" is by Gerry Conway, Rogs Andru and Joe Sinnott. (1/15)

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MARVEL TEAM-UP (20, April). Continued from last issue, Spidey teams up with the Black Panther to fight the "Dinosaurs on Broadway" led by Stegron the Dinosaur Man. Story by Len Wein, Frank Giacoia, and taking over as penciller on TEAM-UP starting this issue, Sal Buscema. (1/15)

STRANGE TALES (173, April). The second of three parts of BROTHER VOODOO's battle with the Dark Lord and the Cult of the Black Rooster is "Sacrifice Play" by Len Wein, Gene Colan and Dick Giordano. Next issue debuts a new feature, MAN WOLF (yes, the character from SPIDER-MAN) written by Doug Moench. No artist has been assigned to the feature as we go to press. The last chapter of BROTHER VOODOO will appear in an upcoming issue of MONSTERS UNLEASHED. (1/15)

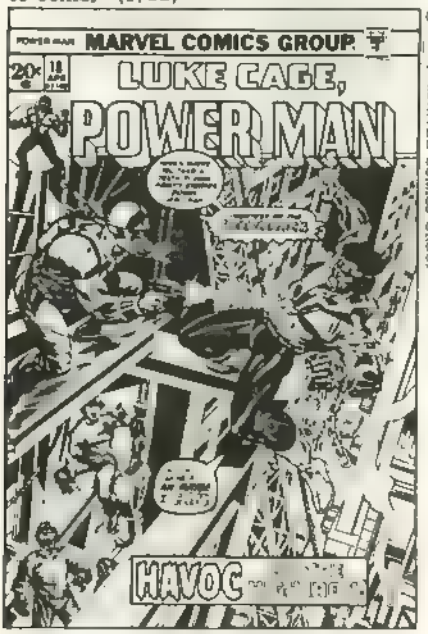
MASTER OF KUNG FU (formerly SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION) (17, April). In "Lair of the Lost" Shang-Chi faces Black Jack Tarr and his Murder Mansion before he can confront Sir Nayland Smith and explain his new knowledge of his father's past villainies. (1/15)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (16, April). Mike Friedrich takes over the writing of our furry friend in this issue's "Death in the Cathedral" as Jack goes to Notre Dame and faces a hunchback. Art by Mike Ploog and Frank Chiarmonte. (1/15)

KULL THE DESTROYER (13, April). In "Tortures from Hell," Redondo the magician becomes the only other person to know that Kull's usurper is actually Thulsa Doom. He hurries to inform Kull of this who is pleased to find another person gain this information. Story by Steve Englehart, Mike Ploog and Al Milgrom. (1/22)

UNCANNY TALES (3, April). (1/22)

POWERMAN (18, April). Starting this issue, Cage will be concentrating on proving he was innocent of the old drug-pushing charge he was sent to Seagate Prison for. But first he must face Steeplejack in "Havoc on the High Irons" by Len Wein, George Tuska and Vince Colletta. Also, the death of Flea in this issue leads to a number of interesting complications to come. (1/22)



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JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY (10, April). (1/22)

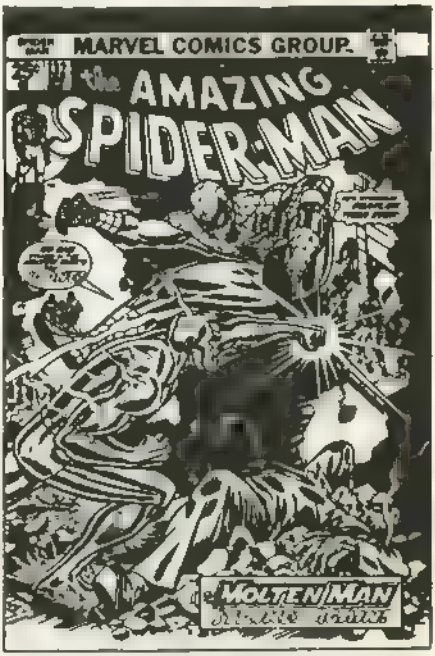
ASTONISHING TALES (23, April). Scripter Tony Isabella re-introduces Fin Fang Foom as a karate/kung-fu master of the monster... er, martial arts. FFF teams up with IT, THE LIVING COLOSSUS to fight Granitor and the rebel gargoyles. Meanwhile, Felix Simon is introduced to the cast of supporting characters and Dr. Vault and Dr. Draun continue to plot against our 30 foot hero. Art by Dick Ayers. (1/22)

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (175, May). The Hulk is the "Man Brute in the Hidden Land" as he visits the Inhumans and faces the anti-human Inhumans. Story by Roy Thomas and Herb Trimpe. (1/29)

KID COLT OUTLAW (182, May). (1/29)

TOMB OF DRACULA (20, May). The conclusion of last issue's tale finds Rachael Van Helsing, Frank Drake and Count Dracula captured by Dr. Sun, the evil mastermind whose agents have been in the backround of the action for some time. This story is written by Marv Wolfman and drawn by Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. (1/29)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (43, May). The SUB-MARINER versus Attuma in



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"A Stranger Strikes from Space" by Stan Lee and Bill Everett, and The Hulk stars in "The Boomerang and the Brute" by Stan Lee and Gil Kane. Both stories are from TALES TO ASTONISH #88. (1/29)

THE MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (31, May). (1/29)

MARVEL SPECTACULAR (7, May). The story that concluded Thor's long romance with Jane Foster and introduced Lady Sif as his new romantic interest is reprinted in this issue. "To Become An Immortal",

by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta, is from THOR #136. Also reprinted is a chapter of the Tales of Asgard entitled "The Grim Specter of Mutiny" from JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #122 by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta. (1/29)

WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS (22, May). (1/29)

DAREDEVIL (109, May). "Dying For Dollars" features the Black Spectre gang using the stolen government plates to print counterfeit currency which is scattered on Wall Street to incite rioting. Nekra (from SHANNA THE SHE DEVIL) and the Beetle are the villains this issue with Shanna making a cameo appearance at the end of this story. Written by Steve Gerber and drawn by Bob Brown and Don Heck, this story concludes in MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #3 next month. Starting with this issue, DD returns to a monthly schedule. (1/29)

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WHERE MONSTERS DWELL (28, May). (1/29)

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CAPTAIN AMERICA (173, May). "The Sins of the Secret Empire" features Cap, the Falcon and the X-Men teaming up against the organization out to ruin Cap. Story by Steve Englehart and Sal Buscema. (2/5)

THE SUB-MARINER (70, May). New scripter Marv Wolfman plans to return the undersea prince to the regal version of some time ago as he takes over the book with this issue. "Namor Unchained!" describes Subby's trip to Bikini Atoll, the site of the post WWII A-bomb tests with hopes of obtaining a phased-out nerve gas antidote that may help the comatose Atlanteans. But he encounters Piranha, a mutated man-fish whose nature is purely vicious. Art is by George Tuska and Vince Colletta. (2/5)

THE DEFENDERS (13, May). "For Sale - One Planet... Slightly Used!" features The Squadron Sinister who plan the destruction of the world at the request of the alien being, Nebulon. Nighthawk rebels against the other members of the Squad and is able to reveal the plan to the Defenders. Story is by Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Klaus Janson. (2/5)

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (132, May). Special Nostalgia Issue! Roll back the calender as this story revives and returns a number of things that left the web-slinger some time ago. Ned Leeds, long-time flance of Pete's old girl friend, is injured by the Molten Man (whose only prior appearance was back in SPIDER-MAN #35) in "The Master Plan of the Molten Man". Returning to the strip after a similar long absence is Pete's old high school classmate, Liz Allen. This story is written by Gerry Conway with John Romita doing the art over Paul Reinman layouts. (2/5)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (18, May). From AVENGERS #24, "From the Ashes of Defeat" features the Avengers fighting on the side of Kang the Conquerer. Story by Stan Lee, art by Don Heck and Dick Ayers. (2/5)

CRYPT OF SHADOWS (10, May). (2/5)

THOR (223, May). "And Fire Across the World" features Thor and Hercules invading Pluto's demonic domain to rescue Hildegarde's kidnapped sister. Script is by Gerry Conway, art by John Buscema and Mike Esposito. (2/5)

BEWARE! (8, May). (2/5)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (49, May). Ben is faced with the disappearance of Alicia in this issue's "What Lurks Within the Beehive?" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott from FANTASTIC FOUR #66. (2/5)

CHAMBER OF CHILLS (10, May). (2/5)

VAMPIRE TALES (4, May). The MORBIUS tale this issue is "Lighthouse of the Possessed" by Don McGregor and Tom Sutton. Other stories are "A Vampire's Home is His Castle" by Doug Moench and Lombardia; an August Derlith adaptation "The Drifting Snow" by Tony Isabella and Esteban Maroto; plus an article by Chris Claremont "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Vampires" and a review of "Hellhouse is Dying" by Don McGregor. (2/5) 75¢

DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU (1, May). Featuring MASTER OF KUNG FU by Starlin, Milgrom and Englehart, SONS OF THE TIGER by Gerry Conway and Dick Giordano plus articles and photo-features. (2/5) 75¢

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THE AVENGERS (123, May). Mantis' battle to the death with The Avengers reveals the secrets of her origin in "Vengeance in Viet Nam" by Steve Englehart, Bob Brown and Don Heck. (2/12)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (38, May). A Howard-based story is featured this issue in "The Warrior and the Wereworm" with story by Roy Thomas and pencils and inks by John Buscema. (2/12)

MAN-THING (5, May). "Night of the Laughing Dead" begins when a clown commits suicide in the swamp. Story by Steve Gerber, art by Mike Ploog and Frank Chiarmonte. (2/12)

AMAZING ADVENTURES (24, May). "For He's a Jolly Good Rebel" has Killraven taking on Guy Lombardo, Accutron watches, cannibal bats and destroying the Lincoln Memorial in a story by Don McGregor, Herb Trimpe and Jack Abel. The back-up story is "The Painting" by Ditko. Cover by Buckler and Janson. (2/12)

CAPTAIN MARVEL (32, May). "Thanos the Insane God" features the conclusion of the Thanos battle in a story drawn and plotted by Jim Starlin, scripted by Mike Friedrich and inked by Dan Greene. (2/12)

FRANKENSTEIN (10, May). "The Last Frankenstein" by Gary Friedrich and John Buscema, featuring the return of Dr. Frankenstein. (2/12)

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE (3, May). Continued from DAREDEVIL #109, is "Inside Black Spectre" featuring DD and The Thing as they invade the HQ of the Black Spectre gang. Wundarr makes an appearance in a new costume designed by Ed Hanigan. By Steve Gerber, Sal Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (2/12)

MY LOVE (29, May). (2/12)

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT (15, May). The Son of Satan celebrates his birthday in "Black Sabbath." Story by Steve Gerber, art by Jim Mooney. (2/12)

MONSTERS UNLEASHED (5, May). Man-Thing in "All the Phases of Fear" by Tony Isabella and Vicente Alcazar, Frankenstein by Gerry Conway and John Buscema and "The Rats" by Gerry Conway and Ralph Reese. Plus an article on the Sindbad movie and a cover by Boris Vallejo. (2/12)

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FANTASTIC FOUR (146, May). Medusa and Torch fight Turnak and his tribe of abominable snowmen in "Doomsday -- 200° Below" by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Joe Sinnott. (2/19)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (21, May). Dr. Strange joins Spidey in another encounter with Xandu in "The Spider and the Sorcerer" by Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Frank Giacoia. (2/19)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (17, May). Don Perlin takes over as artist in "The Bahamas" written by Mike Friedrich. (2/19)

MARVEL PREMIERE (15, May). A new kung fu super-hero takes over the book in the origin story of IRON-FIST, written by Roy Thomas, drawn by Gil Kane and inked by Dick Giordano. (2/19)

SGT. FURY (119, May). "The Soldier Who Wouldn't Die" by Gerry Conway and Dick Ayers. (2/19)

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE (29, May). Thongor makes his last appearance for awhile in "Lord of Chaos" in the windup of The Wizard of Lemuria serial by Steve Gerber and Vicente Alcazar. Next issue features THE LIVING MUMMY. (2/19)

JUNGLE ACTION (9, May). Delayed from December, The Panther battles Baron Macabre in "But Now the Spears Are Broken" by Don McGregor, Gil Kane and Klaus Janson. (2/19)

RAWHIDE KID (120, May). (2/19)

KA-ZAR (3, May). "Night of the Man-God" is the story this issue by Mike Friedrich, Don Heck and Mike Royer. (2/19)

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN KING-SIZE (10, 1974). It's possible that this might be GIANT-SIZE SUPER-STARS #1, but we're not sure. (2/19) 35¢

Charlton News

Operations at Charlton resumed in early January, and full schedule will be resumed by the end of the month. New releases should be appearing in February.

The price on all Charltons will be 25¢. There are several new titles being planned, but we have no details.

The Charlton comics operation was described in depth in CARTOONIST PROFILES #20 ($2.50, P.O. Box 325, Fairfield CT 06430) with many pictures of the plant, and the various men who work there.

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Red Circle News

The second book is now definite, but is going slowly so that Gray Morrow can do the first issue himself to establish the style. The book will center around a large detective agency which will allow for regular characters, free-lancers and rotating characters. (By the way, Gray is currently doing the FRIDAY FOSTER strip for an indefinite period.)

The entire Archie line, as well as that of Harvey, and presumably Fawcett as well, has gone to 25¢.

National Coming Comics

GHOSTS (25, April). "Three Skulls on the Zamkezi" by Leo Dorfman and Alfredo Alcala, "The Phantom's Invisible Clue" by B. Gernale, "The Devil's Own" by Tony Caravana and "The Specter's Last Stand" by Rico Rival and E. R. Cruz, are this issue's features. (1/2)

OUR ARMY AT WAR (267, April). "A Baker's Dozen" by Bob Kanigher and John Severin is the Sgt. Rock story this issue, and Sam Glanzman's U.S.S. Stevens story is "Moonglow." (1/2)

YOUNG LOVE Super-Spectacular (109, April-May). New and reprinted material. (1/2) 60¢

THE SANDMAN (1, Winter). This one-shot Simon and Kirby collaboration was delayed from last month's listings. "The Dreams of the Sandman" features pencils and editing by Jack Kirby, script by Joe Simon and inks by Mike Royer. (1/2)

LIMITED COLLECTOR'S EDITION (C-25) This issue features BATMAN by a potpourri of artists. Stories include: "The Case of the Joker's Crime Circus" (Bob Kane); "The Case Batman Failed to Solve" (Jerry Robinson); "The Mayors of Yomville" (Dick Sprang); "Hate of the Hooded Hangman" (Carmine Infantino); "Hot Time in Gotham Tonight" (Irv Novick); and "Ghosts of the Killer Skies" (Neal Adams). Pin-Ups, puzzles and a back-cover diorama round out the issue. (1/3) $1

FAMOUS FIRST EDITION LIMITED COLLECTORS' GOLDEN MINT SERIES (C-26) A full color, complete (even the ads!) down to the original cover (which is inside the golden cover you've seen advertised) of the world's most valuable comic book -- ACTION COMICS #1. (1/3) $1

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WONDER WOMAN Super-Spectacular (211, April-May). New stories are "Maniacs of Mercury" and "Mystery of the Atom World." Reprints are "Origin of the Amazon Plane," "Wonder Woman, Amazon Teenager," "The Winning of Wonder Woman's Tiara," "Wonder Tot and Mr. Genie," "The Secret of Wonder Woman's Sandals" and "The Mirage Mirrors." Next issue, Julie Schwartz takes over as editor. (1/8) 60¢

THE PHANTOM STRANGER (30, April-May). The Phantom Stranger in "The Children's Crusade" by Arnold Drake and Gerry Talaoc, and the last installment of the SPAWN OF FRANKENSTEIN is "Turnabout" by Steve Skeates and Bernie Bailey. (1/8)

KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH (16, April). An allegorical tale of the way the animals gained their intelligence in "The Hospital," written, pencilled and edited by Jack Kirby, inked by Mike Royer with an assist by D. Bruce Berry. (1/10)

RIMA, THE JUNGLE GIRL (1, April-May). A new series based upon the novel "Green Mansions" involving a girl of the jungle. "Spirit of the Woods" is written by Joe Kubert and drawn by Nestor Redondo. The back-up feature is VOYAGER by Robert Kanigher and Alex Nino. (1/10)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY Super-Spectacular (224, April-May). New material this issue is "Night Stalker in Slim City by David Michelinie and Frank Robbins, "Deadman's Lucky Scarf" by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and Fred Alcala, "Claws of Death" by Alex Nino, 'Sheer Fear" by Gerry Talaoc, and "Photo Finish" by Steve Skeates and Mike Sekowsky. Reprints include the intro by Joe Orlando, five Sergio Aragones pages, "The Original Genuine Guaranteed 100%" by Marv Wolfman, Dick Dillin and Neal Adam

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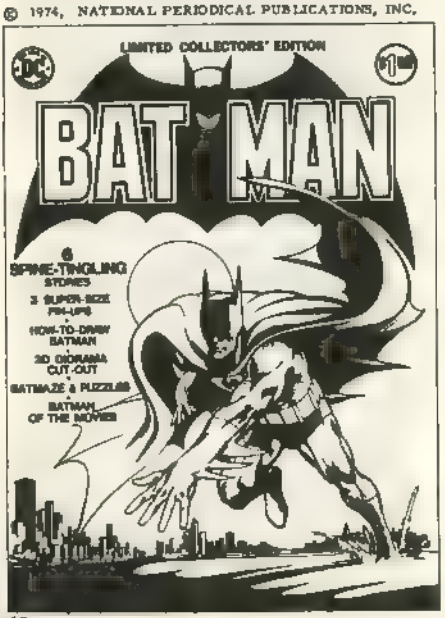

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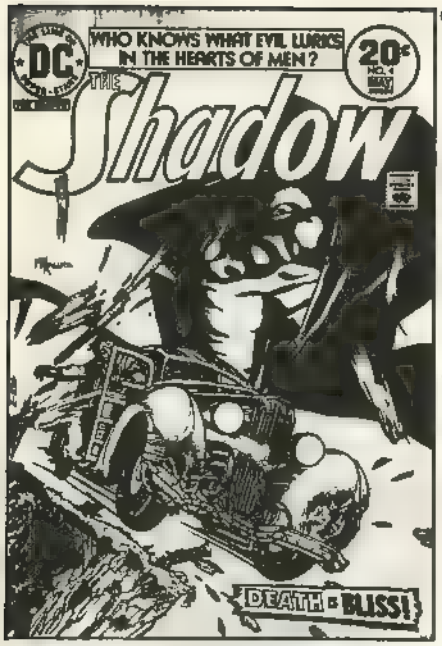
PHANTOM STRANGER story from the fifties "Mystery in Miniature" by Jerry Grandenetti and Sy Barry, "Reluctant Sorcerer" by Howard Purcell, THE SPECTRE in "Abraca-Doom" by Denny O'Neil and Berni Wrightson, "House of Endless Years" by Gerry Conway and Bill Draut and "Gift of Time" by George Rousos. (1/10) 60¢

THE SHADOW (4, April-May). The pulp hero traces an organization that is smuggling gangsters out of the country through a bowery mission in "Death is Bliss" written by Denny O'Neil and Len Wein and drawn by Mike Kaluta. (1/15)

BLACK MAGIC (3, April-May). Delayed from the November schedule, this issue reprints "Nasty Little Men," "Courts of Sleep" and "Angel of Death" are reprinted from the '50s Simon and Kirby title. Cover by Jerry Grandenetti. (1/15)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD Super-Spectacular (112, April-May). Batman and Mr. Miracle in "The Impossible Escape" by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo and a gallery of Batman's past co-stars is the new material here. Reprints are: AQUAMAN and HAWKMAN in "Fury of the Exiled Creature" by Howard Purcell and Bob Haney; BATMAN and GREEN LANTERN in



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"Tick-Tock Traps of the Time Commander" by Bob Haney and Ramona Fradon and THE SILENT KNIGHT in "Three Flaming Dooms" by Robert Kanigher and Irv Novick. Cover by Jim Aparo. (1/17) 60¢

SUPERMAN (274, April). "Protectors of Earth, Inc." is a book length story by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta. Cover by Nick Cardy. (1/17)

THE WITCHING HOUR (41, April). Introductory page by E. R. Cruz, "The Corpse That Lived Twice," "Of Greed and the Grave," and "The Killer Eye" by E. R. Cruz are this issue's contents. (1/17)

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SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE (17, April-May). Delayed from the December schedule, this issue features "Death's Last Rattle" by George Kashdan and Ramona Fradon, "Strange Neighbor" by Alan Weiss, a JOHNNY PERIL reprint by Alex Toth and Sy Barry entitled "Death Has Five Guesses" and a one-pager, "The Corpse Comes on Time" by Win Mortimer. Cover by Nick Cardy. (1/22)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (118, April). "The Very Last Picture Show" by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and George Evans, "Turnabout" by Steve Skeates and Quico Redondo, and "Nasty Little Man" by Jack Oleck and Ramona Fradon, are the features this issue. (1/22)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (148, April-May). The Losers in "The Last Charge" by Robert Kanigher and John Severin, "Toro," by Sam Glanzman, is a U.S.S. STEVENS story, and a Battle Album feature by Ken Barr is on kamakazies. (1/24)

WEIRD WAR TALES (24, April). A cover by Luis Domingues introduces "Invisible Enemy" by Jack Oleck and Ernie Chua and "The Last Battle" by Alex Nino. (1/24)

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY Super-Spectacular (164, April-May). Jimmy Olsen is the original material feature this issue, with reprints being Supergirl in "Brainiac Splits," Lois Lane in "The Three Wives of Superman," Krypto in "Super-Star of Hollywood" and Perry White in "The Death March." (1/24) 60¢

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DETECTIVE COMICS Super-Spectacular (440, April-May). An Aparo cover for Batman in "Ghost Mountain Midnight" by Archie Goodwin, Sal Amendola and Dick Giordano. Other new material is a contents page by Howie Chaykin and Manhunter in the conclusion of his origin by Archie Goodwin and Walt Simonson. Reprints are: a golden age Simon & Kirby MANHUNTER tale; Hawkman in "The Fear that Haunted Hawkman"; Doll Man in "A Million Dollar Corpse"; Green Lantern in "Too Many Suspects"; and

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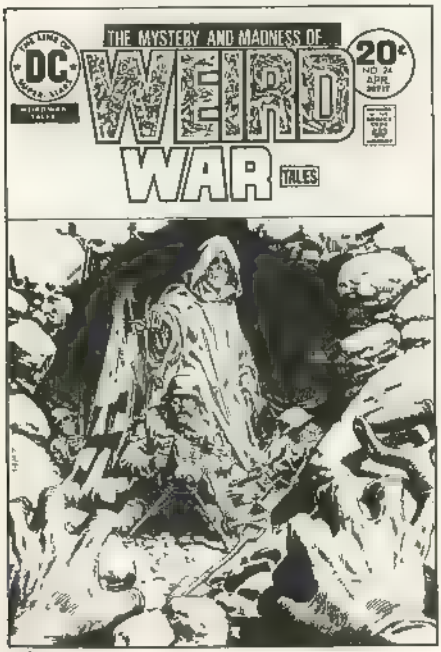
the conclusion to the Outsider series, "The Inside Story of the Outsider." (1/29) 60¢

WEIRD MYSTERY TALES (11, April-May). "Island of the Damned" by Jack Oleck and Abe Ocampo, "Root of this Evil Curse" by Steve Skeates and E.R. Cruz, and 'Child is the Father of the Man" by Steve Skeates and Ouico Redondo. Cover is by Luis Dominguez. (1/29)

ACTION COMICS (434, April). The first part of a two-part SUPERMAN story is "The Krypton Connection" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta. The Green Arrow stars in "Zatanna's Double Identity' when something causes Zatanna to think she is Black Canary. GA doesn't mind -- but Black Canary sure does! Story by Elliot Maggin, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. (1/31)

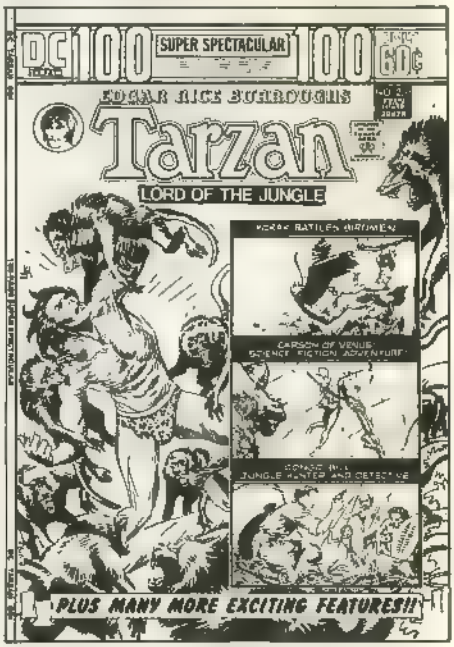
TARZAN Super-Spectacular (230, April-May). Six pages of Tarzan by Joe Kubert lead into the KORAK story by Bob Kanigher, which is illustrated by Joe Kubert and Russ Heath. Reprints are: Congo Bill in "Mystery of the Stolen Bell," a Detective Chimp story by Carmine Infantino, a reprint from the Russ Manning Sunday pages "The Slave Traders," plus a Simba story that originally appeared in BOMBA. (1/31) 60¢



OUR ARMY AT WAR (268, May). Sgt. Rock in "The Elite" by Bob Kanigher and Russ Heath, a Gallery of War episode entitled 'Red Snow" by Kanigher and Ric Estrada, with a cover by Joe Kubert. (2/5)

GHOSTS (26, May). Included in this issue: "The Freaky Phantom of Watkins Glen" by Leo Dorfman and Don Perlin; "Specter in the Flames" by Dorfman and Ernesto Patricio; "Dark Destiny" by Dorfman and E.R. Cruz; and a text page, "Miracle at Midnight." (2/5)

YOUNG ROMANCE Super-Spectacular (199, May-June). (2/7)



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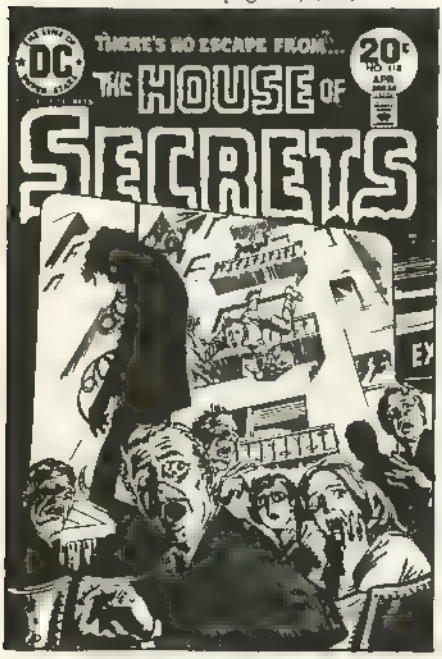
JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA Super-Spectacular (111, May-June). The JLA battles The Injustice Gang of the World in "A Balance of Power" by Len Wein, Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. The reprints this issue are a 7 Soldiers of Victory and a JLA story. (2/7)

SWAMP THING (10, June-July). Arcane and the Un-Men return in "The Man Who Wouldn't Die." Scripted by Len Wein, plotted and drawn by Berni Wrightson (Len was ill) in his last outing. (2/7)

THE UNEXPECTED Super-Spectacular (157, May-June). New material this issue is "House of the Executioner" by E. R. Cruz, "Corpse in the Dead Letter Office" by Don Perlin, "Body Snatcher" by Carl Wessler and Rich Buckler, and "Who Will Kill Gigantus" by Fred Alcala. Reprints are: "Something's Alive in Volcano 13" by Jim Mooney; "The Man Who Cheated Death" by Bill Ely; "Mystery of the Sorcerer's Squad by Ruben Moreira; "The Phantom Duel" by Ely; "I Battled the Abominable Snowman" by John Prentice; "Mystery of the Teen-Age Swami" by Meskin; and "Beware, I Can Read Your Mind" plus "Born Loser" which is a text page. (2/12)



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WEIRD WESTERN (22, May-June). Delayed from December, Mike Fleisher's first Jonah Hex story "Showdown at Hard Times" is featured with art by Tony DeZuniga. Cover by Luis Dominguez. (12/12)

KAMANDI (17, May). A race of humans who burrow and live underground are featured in "The Human Moles of Ohio" written and drawn by Jack Kirby and inked by Mike Royer. (2/12)

SUPERMAN (275, May). Superman in "The Dragon Invasion of Metropolis" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta. The World of Krypton story is "The Princess and the Glass Tree Man" by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Dick Giordano. (2/14)

G.I. COMBAT (171, May-June). "The Man Who Killed Jeb Stuart" centers around the ghost of General Sherman in a story by John David Warner and Sam Glanzman. The back-up is a sequel to "Swords at Dawn" from GIC #159, "Sword of Blood" by Warner and Ric Estrada. (2/14)

PLOP! (5, May-June). Plop! meets the Easter Bunny this issue by Sergio Aragones and Steve Skeates, plus "The Ultimate Freedom" by Aragones, "His Honor the Mayor" by Bill Riley and Mike Sekowsky, "Molded in Evil" by Ed Noonchester, George Kashdan and Berni Wrightson and "Super-Plops" featuring Superman, Batman, Flash and Lois Lane by Murphy Anderson, and assorted Plops. (2/14)

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THE WITCHING HOUR (42, May). Included in this issue are: "Blood of Our Fathers" by George Kashdan and Ruben Yandoc; "The Head That Haunted Gerald Hess" by Carl Wessler, Frank Redondo and June Lofamia; "Freaked Out Wheel of Fortune" by Wessler and Bailey; and an intro by John Calnan. (2/19)

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS Super-Spectacular (223, May-June). New story is "Wipe the Blood Off My Name" featuring Superman, Batman, Deadman and the secret of Batman's brother. Reprints include Deadman in "An Eye for An Eye" (parts one & two), Superman & Batman in "The Reversed Heroes" and "The Composite Superman," Aquaman in "The Sunken City of Gold," Robotman in "License for a Robot," plus a cover by Cardy. (2/19)

SHAZAM! Super-Spectacular (12, May). A reporter from the future investigates a day in which Captain Marvel reportedly did nothing in "The Golden Plague" by E. Nelson Bridwell and Bob Oksner. "Mighty Master of the Martial Arts" involves a kung fu warrior who battles Captain Marvel by Elliot S! Maggin, Oksner and Vince Colletta, plus Captain Marvel, Jr. in "The Longest Block in the World" by Elliot Maggin and Dick Giordano. Reprints are: Mary Marvel vs. Night Owl; "Uncle Marvel's Wedding"; and the five-chapter "The Sivana Family Strikes at the Marvel Family" from MARVEL FAMILY #10. (2/19)

STRANGE SPORTS STORIES (5, May-June). "The Hockey Mask of Death" by Frank Robbins and John Rosenberger and "Ski-Chase Through Space" by Robbins, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin, are this issue's sports stories. (2/21)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (180, May-June). The Unknown Soldier is featured in "The Doomsday Heroes" by Frank Robbins and Jack Sparling. "Return" is the sequel to "U. F. M." from SSWS #170 by Gerry Boudreau and Walt Simonson. Plus a Battle Album by Simonson. (2/21)

WEIRD WAR TALES (25, May). "Black Magic - White Death" by George Kashdan and Fred Alcala and "Unseen Warrior" by Kashdan and Alex Nino are featured in this issue with a cover by Luis Domingues. (2/21)

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HOUSE OF SECRETS (119, May). Included are: "Carnival of Dwarfs" by Mike Fleisher, Russ Carley and Arthur Suydam; "Imitation Monster" by Mike Pellowski, Kashdan and Alcala; and two Aragones pages. Cover by Domingues. (2/26)

SUPERBOY (202, May-June). The Legion of Super-Heroes in "Wrath of the Devil Fish" by Cary Bates and Dave Cockrum and "Lost -- A Million Miles from Home" by Cary Bates, Dave Cockrum and Mike Grell, who takes over as penciller next issue. (2/26)

THE FLASH (227, May-June). Captain Boomerang returns in "Flash, This is Your Death" which is narrated by Barry Allen's father. Story by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Green Lantern begins a two-parter in "My Ring... My Enemy" by Denny O'Neil, Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. (2/26)

BATMAN Super-Spectacular (256, May-June). New story is "The Catwoman's Circus Caper" by Denny O'Neil, Irv Novick and Dick Giordano in a book-lengther. The Trophy Room is the theme of the reprints which are: "Dinosaur Island" and "Penny Plunderers" which tell the origins of two of the most famous Batman trophies; "Brothers in Crime" from BATMAN #12 (1942); "1001 Trophies of Batman" a 1950 story in which he battles Dr. Doom; and "The Secret of Batman Island" from 1958. (2/28) 60¢

ADVENTURE COMICS (433, May-June). The Spectre's girl friend visits a criminal Swami in an attempt to humanize Jim Corrigan in "The Swami and The Spectre" by Fleisher, Carley and Jim Aparo. Also a chapter of Captain Fear called "Revolt and Revenge" by Steve Skeates and Alex Nino. Cover by Jim Aparo with exceptional color by Tatjana Wood. (2/28)

ACTION COMICS (435, May). Part 2 of last issue's tale is "I Want to Wreck the World" by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta. The Atom is featured in "Unmasking of the Atom" by Elliot Maggin, Dick Dillin, and Giordano & McLaughlin. (2/28)

Warren

SPIRIT #2 will feature a two-part story featuring Powder Puff plus "The Saga of Awesome Belles" which parodies the Orson Welles-WAR OF THE WORLDS Martian scare. Other stories include "Tragedy of Marie Andru," a fairy tale-type tale, and "Mortimer J. Titmouse, The Man Who Destroyed the World." The cover will either be Will Eisner-Neal Adams and Berni Wrightson or Basil Gogos.

The SCHRECK series is being concluded in EERIE #55 and will be replaced by the promised FREAKS series.

●

CREEPY #60 - In this issue: "Slaughterhouse" by Rich Margopolis and A. Abellan; "The Hero Within" a color job by Rich Corben and Steve Skeates; "Monsieur Fortrance's Hoax" by John Jacobson and Martin Salvador; "The Other Side of Hell" by Bill Dubay and Gonzalo Mayo; and "The Exorcist," a one-pager by Dubay. Cover by Sanjulian. (1/22)

THE SPIRIT #1 - Stories in this first issue are: "Raven's Point," "Jailbreak," "Li'l Adam," "Oriols A. C.," Li'l Henry Murderer," "The Time Trip," "Killer Joe Dawe" and with full color by Rich Corben "El Spirito," all written and drawn by Will Eisner. (1/29)

EERIE #55 - Lead story is a 25 page ending of the Schreck strip, entitled "Worms in the Mind" by Doug Moench and Vicente Alcazar. Other stories are: The Hunter by Bud Lewis and Paul Neary; Dr. Archaeus in "Quest of the Golden Dove" by Gerry Boudreau and Isidro Mones; a color SPIRIT story "Bucket of Blood" with color by Rich Corben; with a cover featuring The Hunter by Ken Kelley. (2/5)

VAMPIRELLA #32 - Vampirella in "The Running Red" by Flaxman Lowe and Jose Gonzales; Pantha in "Black on White" by Steve Skeates and Auraleon; "The Man Who's Soul Was Spoiling" by Jim Stenstrum and Fernando Fernandez; and "Just Like Old Times" by Rich Margopolis and Ramon Torrents. An enlarged color section features "Harry" and "Dead Run" by Jeff Jones and Rich Corben. Cover by Enrich. (2/5)

1973 Comic Art Fan Awards

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the thirteenth year of comic art fan awards; it is for newsstand work dated 1973 and for non-newsstand work copyright or published in 1973. Anything except all-reprint work is eligible -- but it must be from 1973.

This ballot must be mailed by April 1, 1974.

This ballot is being authorized to appear only in a limited number of publications. These are: THE BUYER'S GUIDE, THE COMIC READER, THE MENOMONEE FALLS GAZETTE, THE MENOMONEE FALLS GUARDIAN, and THE ROCKET'S BLAST/COMICOLLECTOR. Only official ballots will be counted. If you do not wish to deface your copy of these publications or do not receive any of them, we will send you an official ballot -- if you send us a self-addressed stamped envelope. No request that does not contain a self-addressed stamped envelope is to be honored. Send your requests to:

1973 COMIC ART FAN AWARDS
Tony Isabella
5455 Kings Highway, #4A
Brooklyn, New York, 11203

We regret the necessity of this action, but last year's unfortunate ballot-stuffing by one individual made such precautions necessary. We deeply regret any inconvenience. Naturally, we will not count ballots we deem to be fakes. But we promise to count all ballots that we are not absolutely certain are fakes.

There will be only one ballot this year. There being next to no change in the winners between the nominating ballot last year and the final ballot, we have opted to reduce our work load and also speed up our getting the results to you.

On the other hand, we are not adverse to changing back to the two ballot system if enough of you request. We are also prepared to add a "Best Inker" category if enough of you request it. In answering your ballot, please let us know your feelings on these two matters. We will act on them for next year's ballot.

We also hope to turn over the Comic Art Fan Awards to a board of administrators next year. Your suggestions are welcomed.

We (being Tony Isabella) are also removing ourselves from competition in all categories to insure complete fairness in counting the ballots. As always, our records are open to responsible persons who wish to double-check the results.

Final results will be mailed in late April to the magazines in which this ballot appears. In addition, copies of the results will be available for a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Thanks for your cooperation and happy balloting.

Sincerely yours,

Tony Isabella
Awards Administrator

1973 COMIC ART FAN AWARDS BALLOT

(1) Favorite Pro Artist (Any artist, based on work published in magazines distributed on the newsstand. Can be penciller, inker, colorist, etc.)

_____

(2) Favorite Pro Writer (Any writer, based on work published in magazines distributed on the newsstand.)

_____

(3) Favorite Pro Editor (Any editor of a newsstand comic.)

_____

(4) Favorite Pro Comic Book (Any kind -- romance, funny animal, etc. Black and white or color. Definition of "Pro" is not that of money-making, but of nationwide newsstand distribution. Vote for title of comic, not issue number.)

_____

(5) Favorite Non-Newsstand Comic Book (Any comic art which doesn't appear widely on newsstands; this can be fanzines with much comic art, "underground comix" or mail-order art from pros. Vote for title, not issue number.)

_____

(6) Favorite Comic Book Story (Any length, so long as it appears in one comic; only one installment of a serial would be eligible. Stories found in comics of Category 5 are eligible.)

_____

(7) Favorite Comic Book Character (A member of a group, a solo character, or some supporting character; those from Category 5 are eligible.)

_____

(8) Favorite Fanzine (A fanzine is <u>any</u> comics-related non-newsstand publication; it can be small or large circulation, printed or dittoed, newsletter or adzine or articlezine or whatever else doesn't fit Category 5. Vote for fanzine title, not issue number.)

_____

(9) Favorite Fan Writer (Scripter, article-writer, editor, or whatever you please -- on the basis of work <u>not</u> in newsstand publication.)

_____

(10) Favorite Fan Artist (Spot illustrator, strip artist, underground cartoonist, etc. -- on the basis of work <u>not</u> for newsstand publication.)

_____

Please write or print or type legibly.
Sign here and type or print your name
under your signature. _____

Please list your source for this ballot here: <u>The COMIC READER</u>

Mail all ballots by April 1, 1974, to:

1973 Comic Art Fan Awards
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